

Colonel Witter was a native of Wausau, Wisconsin. He was the last serving son of 20 children of the late Jerry and Amelia Witter.

Colonel Witter was a veteran of the United States Army, a retired military intelligence officer, and a United States Military Academy professor of social sciences at West Point. He was a decorated military veteran, earning the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with two bronze stars, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Combat Infantryman Badge. He was preceded in death by his son, Mathew, and all of his 19 brothers and sisters.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, and my second mom, Mary Ellen; two daughters, and my second sisters, Nannette Jordan of Norwalk, Connecticut, and Dorinda Selby of Beaufort, South Carolina. He also had five grandchildren: Ashley Benusa of Hong Kong; Taylor Jordan of Boston, Massachusetts; Zachary Jordan of Waterbury, Connecticut; Senior Airman Mathew Selby of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, Arizona; and Thomas Selby of Beaufort, South Carolina.

Funeral services were held yesterday at St. John's Lutheran Church in Beaufort, South Carolina. I will be attending the burial service, which will take place at West Point Military Academy Cemetery on January 24, 2020, at 10 a.m.

Mr. Speaker, I conclude with Matthew 25:21: "His Lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of the Lord."

Beat Navy.

#### CELEBRATING MONROE COUNTY BICENTENNIAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my beloved Monroe County as we enter the 200th year of our county's rich and storied history.

A small rural county in south central Kentucky, Monroe County is home to communities steeped in history and tradition. Whether you are from Tompkinsville, Gamaliel, or Fountain Run, you have a shared Monroe County identity.

If you are a Monroe Countian, you more than likely enjoy our legendary barbecue and probably have countless stories to tell about our county's rich history, especially our political history.

This Sunday, January 19, hundreds of us will gather to celebrate Monroe County's 200th birthday. As we meet at the Tompkinsville National Guard Armory for this proud occasion, I will be

seeing many of the friendly faces that shaped my upbringing and remain good friends to this day.

Monroe County holds a special place in my heart; and now, more than ever, I am proud to serve as a voice for our citizens right here in our Nation's Capitol.

□ 1045

#### TAKING A STAND AGAINST SANCTUARY CITIES

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern about the upturn of sanctuary cities across the United States and push for action to enhance public safety by further cracking down on illegal immigration.

There should be consequences for not following the law. Local governments that choose not to enforce immigration laws recklessly put lives at risk. Senseless deaths occasionally result from crimes committed by criminal illegal aliens who take refuge in sanctuary cities.

Action is needed to prevent more harm from cities refusing to cooperate with Federal immigration officials. Allowing cities to tie the hands of our brave law enforcement officers and ignore the law should not be tolerated. I am calling on Congress to strengthen the safety of our communities by passing legislation banning sanctuary cities.

But while we continue to await action on this important issue, States are stepping up and making this a top priority. I want to commend the leaders in my home State of Kentucky who are taking proactive action to ban sanctuary cities and strengthen public safety. The leadership they are showing on this issue is an important step toward giving law enforcement more tools to go after major problems like drug trafficking and will benefit all Kentuckians.

#### DELAYED TRANSMISSION OF IMPEACHMENT ARTICLES

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, as of today, it has been 4 weeks since House Democrats voted, in a historically partisan manner, to impeach President Donald Trump.

In voting to silence the will of 63 million Americans, they made clear that they were not here to work for the American people but to carry out a personal vendetta. Even a few House Democrats realized that impeachment was not in the best interest of our country, joining Republicans to oppose this baseless crusade.

But after their vote, Speaker PELOSI realized they had made a grave mistake. Their sham process and evidence-free case went against the wishes of the American people.

Knowing their case was baseless, Speaker PELOSI and House Democrats sat on these articles for 1 month. After originally claiming that impeachment was an urgent crisis and insisting that President Trump was a threat to national security, Democrats sat on their hands and delayed a timely trial on their own shoddy work product.

But the day has finally come where they are sending their weak case over to the Senate. I look forward to the day where Congress may finally move on from this partisan impeachment process that has wasted an amazing amount of time and resources and distracted from issues that matter most to the American people.

While I am disappointed that we have reached this sad point in this congressional body, I look forward to seeing a more fair and responsible hearing in the Senate.

#### ROE V. WADE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUDD. Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court decision in *Roe v. Wade* was decided 47 years ago this month. Since abortion was made legal, more than 60 million unborn children have had their lives prematurely ended.

This is a matter of conscience, and just like the plurality of American people, I believe that life begins at conception.

In recent years, advances in science and medicine have given us an increasingly vivid picture of what life in the womb is like. A child has a heartbeat at just 6 weeks. A child feels pain at just 20 weeks. Science makes it clear that life exists in the womb, and, therefore, an unborn child is entitled to the most fundamental of human rights, and that is the right to live.

Even the plaintiff in that landmark case, Norma McCorvey, who at that time went by the name Jane Roe, changed her view and worked on behalf of the pro-life movement. She said: I think I have always been pro-life, but I just didn't know it.

*Roe v. Wade* is not only a human tragedy but a constitutional one as well.

In our Constitution, power is divided among three branches: Article I, Congress; Article II, the Presidency; and Article III, the courts. Congress makes the laws, the Executive enforces them, and the courts apply them.

Courts should not be in the business of striking down acts of Congress or State statutes simply because the individual judges have political disagreements with what the people's representatives have decided. In our constitutional system, judges may strike down laws only if those laws conflict with the Constitution, our country's supreme law.

But that is not what happened in *Roe v. Wade*. Five Justices created a right to abortion by reinterpreting the Due Process Clause of the Constitution. That clause says that no State may deprive anyone of life, liberty, or property without due process of law.

But even supporters of the decision have cast doubt on this justification. Harvard Law School's Laurence Tribe wrote: "One of the most curious things